

Birds & Worms News

the newsletter of the Newport Yacht Club, Rochester NY



What's this all about you ask?

Why it's the Drazhel-Riordan Cruise Lines 1st Annual Potluck and Carribean Cruise.
(see article by Joanne Vaughn)

What's Up?

4/28 – General Membership Meeting (7:30) preceded by Snipe Fleet Lasagna Dinner (6:00)
4/29 – Spring Work Party (8:30)
5/7 – Launch Breakfast (9:00)
5/7 – Boathouse Sale
5/7 – Start of racing season
6/1 – Start of Thursday Night Sailing

Since the Last Newsletter – J. Boettcher

I missed the January general membership meeting on the 28th but heard it was a great affair with good food and entertainment. The Lightning Fleet shared pictures and stories from their adventures at the Lightning Worlds in Chile.

Earlier in the month (1/14) the Long Range Planning Committee met with a marine engineer to discuss wave abatement and dock improvements at the club. The layout and problems of the club were described and various approaches were discussed. Look for more news from Ed Bell, the committee chairman, in the future.

As has become a tradition, there were several Sunday potluck gatherings sponsored by the Snipes or Cruisers.

The one held in March was certainly colorful as can be gathered from the picture above. See the article describing the event by Joanne Vaughn elsewhere in this newsletter.

The mild winter caused the ice boaters that use the club to travel great distances. Be sure to read the short blurb of one of the adventures by Andy Smith.

Cindy McReynolds got together a bunch of folks to discuss the Thursday Night Sailing for the upcoming season. Read an excerpt of her meeting minutes below.

The sailing season is about to begin. Make sure to attend the 4/28 Membership Meeting and Lasagna dinner and the work party the next day. Find where you left your boat and bring it down to the Club on or before the Launch Breakfast. If you have extra sailing stuff, you can get rid of it at the Boathouse Sale on the same day.

Ice Boaters in Wisconsin – Andy Smith (from AS e-mail to the editor dated Feb 3rd)
John- Just a heads up for the next Birds and Worms.

John & Chad Atkins are on their way back from half-way across the country. The DN iceboat North Americans

were held this week on Lake Pippin or on the Big Muddy. Rumor has it that Chad finished 3rd in the first race (36 boats), then 11th. Then there is something about breaking his mast, using his dad's boat, and breaking that mast, also. John was the PRO for all the races – a big job. If he does not send in an article, and a couple photos, etc., threaten to put some extra hardener in his rosin pot or something.

Commodore's Corner – Bob Shanebrook

It won't be long until we will be sailing again. In preparation, the club's board members have been working so we can have another successful sailing season. In addition to Sunday racing the season will include Cruising Fleet events, Thursday Night Sailing followed by picnic dinners and some Saturday racing. The last weekend of July is the 70th Anniversary of the founding of NYC. To celebrate this and other significant anniversaries of the club we are planning a party at the club.

Our building project for this Spring is finishing the porch and extending the roof to the South side of the clubhouse. Eric Schoenhardt is heading up the project and is planning special work parties on the remaining Saturday's in April. He needs everyone's help.

Members are critical to the health of the club. If you know people that would be good members and would enjoy joining NYC please invite them to visit the club and attend our activities. We need more good members.

Happy sails!

Vice Commodore Report – Lynn Bluett

All right! The sailing season is about to begin! We hope to be able to complete the porch project before we all take to the water. Eric Schoenhardt is heading up the completion of the porch roof project. We will be working Saturdays in April to finish closing in the underside of the roof that we added last April. The plan is to "wrap" the porch around the south side of the building in the future. I hope you can all come and help because, as the saying goes, "Many hands make light work."

April 29th is our Spring Work Party. We have some raking and cleaning up to do to get the Club ready for the season. I will have sheets with all the jobs listed at the April General Membership Meeting. If you can't make the work party and still want a job, call me (266-5384) after the work party and I will let you know what needs to be done.

I have added a shopping list to the door of the refrigerator at the Club. If you know something is getting

low, add it to the list and I will restock it. If the propane tank on the grill runs out, please let me know about it so I can get the empty tank refilled.

Fair winds!

Words from the Race Chairman – Eric Schoenhardt

Racing Safety – Racing safely is the responsibility of everyone on the water both racers and Race Committee. We want to remind everyone to be thinking safety while racing and if anyone observes an unsafe condition or practice on the water, report it to their fleet captain who will relay it to Eric Schoenhardt, as the Race Committee chair, to be addressed as necessary. Obviously, if the risk poses an immediate hazard, address it immediately but please notify your fleet captain afterward so that Eric can see that corrections are made for the future as well.

Attached to the back of this newsletter is the calendar for the first few weeks of the season. The balance will be published shortly.

Launch Breakfast-5/7 – J. Vaughn and J. Boettcher

Let's hope for weather as nice as the photo below (taken in 2004). Join us on May 7th for some great grub. Time is 9:00 am. Cost is \$2 but you have to let us know you (and how many) are coming so we can figure out the amount of food. Call (671-9639) or email John (johnwb1@bluefrog.com) for reservations. You can also take in the Boathouse Sale on the same day (see next article).



Cruisers, this would be a great time to get help launching your boat. You might even be able to recruit help from among your friends with the promise of a great breakfast.

Bargains Galore at the Newport YC BOATHOUSE-SALE – 5/7

Like a garage sale, but for sailboat parts. Tables will be available on Launch Breakfast day for display of sale items. Sellers should attach price tags to each item. Buyers of small items should put the money in the box provided, expecting that it will end up in the club's treasury. Pay seller directly for more significant items. Advertising by e-mail prior to the sale is encouraged.

Membership Committee Report – John Boettcher

At the January General Membership Meeting, we brought Jim McIntosh back into the fold as a member. My records indicate that Jim was a member from 1974 until 1987 when he resigned in good standing. He will be racing one of the many Lightnings I'm told he owns. Welcome back Jim!

The sending of membership bills in February brought forth a number of resignations. We bid farewell and good luck to Andrew Kaltenbach, George and Donna Sereno, Ken and Chris Schwenker, Peter Zimmerman, Mike Costello, and Ray and Pat Wartinger.

Lightning Fleet Report – Lori Foster

When you can't decide between two things, choose both of them!

The Lightning Regatta on June 24 and 25 will be just that. Saturday will be a regatta of one-lappers on the Lake (fingers crossed) and Sunday we will team race. Saturday evening, in addition to the best happy hour and grand cookout, there will also be a clinic describing and answering questions about team racing. Everyone had a blast team racing last year including the RC and crash boats (ask Bob Crum!). Phil Lange is regatta chair and Eva Smith is housing captain.

A new feature to this year's sailing schedule is the addition of 'Fun Race Saturdays' during June, July and August. The snipes will be first off the line and then Lightning and cruising fleets will handicap race. These races will not count towards anything – they are just for fun. It provides a chance to train crew in a racing situation without jeopardizing your club standings. It is a chance to ask anyone you want to coach you on your boat. Even try single-handing it. Use it however you like.

Our hopes are to get 'that yellow boat' (ILCA-owned Lightning 12220) geared up and available for any Club member to use. John Atkins or Al McReynolds can answer your questions about this possibility.

Lightnings hold three people. Requirements for crewing are enthusiasm and a willingness to have fun. See you at the club!

Chile – Lori Foster

-32 degrees latitude, -71 degrees longitude

Foul weather gear and life jacket? Check! Repair kit or boat and sails? Check! Passport and plane ticket? Check! A chance to race in Chile? You bet! Money? Who cares, because when it comes down to it, the memories (seafood dinners and shopping) and shared experiences (the BIG wave) are priceless.

International racing is a favorite of mine, and I think I speak for my teammates, John Atkins and Al McReynolds, and others from the Lightning Class. It is a chance to make and solidify friendships – regardless if the only words that are shared are 'hello', a smile or a nod of the head. Gestures tell the same racing story as words when there is no language in common.

When there is a common language the possibilities are endless. "Would your country or club like to host a Youth Worlds?" is John Atkins' favorite question.

All international sailing competitions strive for the same thing a club race strives for – good racing. The international level offers the chance to strengthen ties and understanding between countries and competitors. It is a chance to be an ambassador.

John A. Shedd said "a ship in harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are built for." Enjoy your sailing no matter where it takes you.

3/23 TNS Meeting Summary – C. McReynolds
(abbreviated by the editor)

20 people attended the Thursday Night Sailing meeting. A mission statement for the series will be developed to guide us in the future. Some time was spent discussing club support to the program and increasing participation. There will be a combination of permanent (treasurer, scorer, etc.) and rotating (food purchaser, grill master, PRO) positions. The location and set-up of the grill was discussed with mention of housing the grill adjacent the grilling shelter instead of the snack bar. The tow to the lake could be more efficient with racers ready with tow rope and sails down. Some training of the race committee personnel in towing would be helpful also. It was decided that racers should assume that racing will be on the lake unless conditions are unsafe. The communication of the lake or bay decision will take place via flags. Required safety equipment for boats participating in TNS are flashlight, radios (encouraged),

anchors, towline suitable for your boat (30 ft. Laser, 33 ft, Snipe, 50 ft Lightning) and bowline.

The next TNS meeting will be April 20th.

Drahzal-Riordan Cruise Lines Launch 1st Annual Potluck and Caribbean Cruise – J. Vaughn

The Cruising Fleet and Snipe Fleet gathered together in their tropical shirts, shorts and goose bumps to celebrate their first joint voyage from the dock at Clover St, Pittsford. The theme was definitely balmy since everyone had pawed their cookbooks for recipes from warmer locales. Coconut, mango and pineapple ruled the day, as did marinated chicken and ribs with rice and beans. Not to be outdone by anyone, Norm Dahl donned his snorkeling attire. Also in keeping with the theme no fleet business was done by anyone.

Snipe Fleet Report – Ted Horvath

The Snipe Fleet had well-attended and enjoyable pot luck gatherings over the winter. Rosemary and Norm Dahl hosted our December party. Carol and Phil Morse did our January affair. Jean and Ellsworth Bahrman were hosts in February in what turned out to be a Mardi Gras celebration where everyone wore authentic beads

from New Orleans. Ellsworth got the traditional baby in the King cake. The pot luck in March was a Caribbean theme party with the Cruising Fleet, which was organized and held by Dorothy Drahzal and Paul Riordan (a more complete report appears elsewhere in this newsletter). Please put on your calendar that our next Pot Luck will be at 12:30 PM on Sunday, April 23, at the Horvath's home in Mendon.

On Friday, April 28, the Snipe Fleet will be coordinating and providing our traditional Lasagna dinner to be held before the Newport General Membership Meeting. I hope you can all attend.

Newsletter Contributions

Thanks to Joanne Vaughn for the photo. Norma Platt and Ed Bell are responsible for turning the draft of the newsletter into proper English. Ed Bell also provides color copies of the newsletter which are mailed to members not having email. John Boettcher is the editor. Next issue will be in June of 2006. Send contributions to J. Boettcher.



2005 Newport Yacht Club Race Schedule (draft 1-25-06)

	DATE	TIME		Lightnings	Snipes	Lasers	Handicap	
1	7-May	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			Spring series May 7 - May 28
2	14-May	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
3	21-May	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
4	28-May	1:00 PM	Sun	X	X			
5	29-May	1:00 PM	Mon	X	X	X	X	CLUB HANDICAP RACE
6	1-Jun	5:20 PM	Thu	X	X	X	X	Summer Series June 1 - Aug 26